

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1744.

To the AUTHOR, &c.



N Considering the Case of the Excluded Actors, I shall confine myself to this single Fact; viz. That the Town, by some Mismanagement or other, is deprived of several Actors; some of whom, in their particular Walks, are as Excellent as the very Best; and the rest, more than Equal to those who supply their Places on either Stage; all of them useful, and conveniently to be spar'd; who have play'd, for a number of Years, to the Town, without receiving any sensible Marks of their Displeasure, in their Acting Capacities, when they would step out of them.

To acquire into this Fact, shall be the Business of this Paper; and to remedy this Grievance, my Advice to the Managers; because I look upon them to be the proper Occasion of this present Deprivation of Actors. I shall now proceed to shew.

During the Time that Mr. H—more had the Privilege, he was not able to collect together a Set of Actors, who could keep his House warm. This determining to part with it, a Purchaser was soon found, from whom great Matters were expected.

A Gentleman began, by tampering with the Actors of the other Houses, and offering them much higher Salaries, than they actually enjoy'd. Interest is a sure way, several came over to him with increased Salaries, his Company, by these Means, became at last the best.

I need not observe to my Readers, that it is from the Managers we must trace the Origin of the late Disputes between Managers and Actors: These Managers, who had so lately raised, and still enjoy'd, the Salaries of Actors, could not be brought easily to let them afterwards, only because the Managers were unwilling to pay them.

This is foretelling my Purpose. — To prove that Things went on in this Manner for some Years, the Managers out-bidding the other, and raising the Salaries of English Actors to such a Degree, (and of Foreign Actors, and Dancers also) that they began to be able of their own Errors, by a Decrease in their Profits. This drew them to forget their Rivalship and Animosity, and to unite, in order to reduce the exorbitant Salaries of Actors, which they themselves had been the Occasion of raising. But all this could not happen without the Knowledge of the Actors, who, to secure their own Interests, entered likewise into Associations with themselves.

The Managers Scheme was a Cartel (as 'tis call'd) and a considerable Reduction of Salaries; and the Actors, to all, one and all, in not abating their Prices; and this continued for some Time. At length, Means were found to break the Association of the latter: The principal was taken in on his own Terms, and the Rest made off.

This is the true History of the Theatre, for some Years past, with respect to the Affair of the raising and lowering of Salaries.

It appears then from this Deduction, that the Managers brought this Inconvenience upon themselves, by out-bidding each other at first; and that not being able to remedy it, they now throw it upon the Town: It is, in other Words, the Managers, not caring to continue to the Actors the raised Salaries, they first engaged them to ask, and afterwards gave them, while there was a Contention for Actors between them, now each other not to admit, on any Terms, any Actor who belong'd to the other House; in which, there is a considerable Injustice done the Town.

In the first Place, Plays are not so well Acted; and they are not Acted at all, for want of these Actors.

In the next Place, the Manager is supposed to pay more than he did; else, the Actors are most improperly excluded, while the Town continues to pay the very same.

Thus, the Town is to consent to the Manager's putting into his Pocket this Saving (be it what it will) between the Price demanded by the excluded Actors, and that paid those who supply their Places; and is to pay the same Prices for fewer Plays, and Plays worse Acted.

But why this exclusive Cartel? Why may not an Actor go from one Theatre to the other? May not it happen, that two Actors may be exactly in the same Walk, which

might make the one extremely wanted in the other House, and useful in that, where he is?

Why, in particular, (to try this Exclusion in some Instance or another) is Mr. M—lin excluded both Houses? He has disoblige'd Mr. G—k, or Mr. F—w—d, and therefore Mr. R—b must not take him! This may be a very good Argument, as to the private Friendships of those Gentlemen, but is a very impertinent One to the Town, who loses the only Jew of Venice they have; as good a FACE in the Alchymist as any; an incomparable MALVOLIO; an unexceptionable CLOWN in all Shakespear's Plays; besides many other Parts which might be mentioned, in which he is so far from being excused, that he is not equal'd by any, in them.

Why are Mrs. C—ve, Mr. C—ber, Mrs. H—ton, Mrs. B—ler, Mr. M—lls and his Wife, Mrs. M—lin, and Mrs. R—rts, in such a Dearth of good Actors, excluded? How many Plays suffer for want of several of these? How many, not acted for the same Reason!—Sure there are as bad Actors on the Stage, as almost any of these. —Are there not many worse? much worse! than most of these? But are all these excluded, thro' the Exorbitancy of their Demands, for the Town can admit of no other Reason? Will they come to no Terms? Have they offer'd none within Reason? What is the Difference (the saving I mean) between their Demands, and the Sums given to those who are taken in their Places? Is it greater, in Proportion, than their different Excellings in acting? Have they ever been offer'd a Middle Price between what they had, (before the Managers set them up to Auction, by their own Follies) and what they rais'd them to?

All these are Questions which the Town have a Right to make, because they are upon a worse Footing, by the Exclusion of these Actors, than they were before; and yet pay as much for their Entertainment.

But is the Expence of the House really diminish'd by the Exclusion of these Actors? Do not the very great, and, (I believe) unheard-of Prices (since the Romans Time) given to some few Actors now on the Stage, swallow up this imagin'd Saving? But there would be no Houses without these Actors; and they must be bought at any Rate! Let us try this: The Manager having rejected several excellent Actors, (as Actors now go) for private Reasons the Town has nothing to do with, and having no Strength left in his Company, except in his few high-rated Actors, says, They must be bought at any Rate. He throws himself, by this unjust Exclusion of the Old Ones at reasonable Rates, under a Necessity of wanting the New Ones at exorbitant Ones, and gives them Carte blanche; the Overplus whereof, (allowing them still the highest Price) proportionably distributed among such of the excluded Ones, whose Merits, or Uefulness, or their Favour with the Town, entitle them to more, than they first set out with, would have satisfied their Demands, and not increased his Expence.

But will not the above-mentioned Actors, at least most of them, (for I would not have what I now say, apply'd to each in particular) properly cast into every Comedy that is now acted, make the Representation infinitely stronger than it now is? Would not Mr. M—lls, and Mr. M—lin have greatly heighten'd the Alchymist? I say nothing, in particular, of ABEL DRUGGER, because both Mr. G—ck, and Mr. C—ber, set it unexceptionably well. Is there any other Comedy, into which I could not cast some of these, to much greater Advantage than they can be now play'd? Shall the Town be compell'd to see, thro' the long Strides of a shambling, disjointed Tall-Boy, the exquisite and delicate Fopperies of a Sir NOVELTY, or a Lord TOPPINGTON? Whilst the best Coxcomb, next to his Father, now lives, &c. &c. &c. &c. for it would be endless, and a tiresome Work, to bring Instances of the Want of these Actors, in every Comedy that is now perform'd.

But the Town is to blame in all this; who are amusing themselves in destroying Pantomime, which becomes every Day more necessary for the Want of Actors in general, but still more felt by this unjust Exclusion; instead of calling upon the Manager to give them sensible, just, and true Reasons, such as they can take Cognizance of, for excluding these Actors; which must be other, than his private, or the Actors private Piques among themselves. I am,

S I R,

Yours, &c.

W. HINT.

HOME PORTS.

Bristol, November 7, Arrived the Sufanna, Wood, from Leghorn.

Pool, November 7. Came in the John and Eliza, Taylor, from Topham for London.

Deal, November 8. Wind W. Remains his Majesty's Ship the Princess Louisa, with the Great Britain, Low-staffe, Bacchus, and Expedition Privateers, and the Outward-bound as per list.

Gravesend, November 8. Pass'd by the Union, Glenkart, from Amsterdam, but left from Dunkirk; the Salustian Privateer, and her Prize the Tryson, both from Topham.

Arrived

At Glasgow, the Lilly, Wallace, the Jenny, Bogie, and the Leah, —, from Virginia.

L O N D O N.

Private Letters from Berlin say, that it is thought the King of Prussia will shortly quit the Command of his Army in Bohemia, in order to return to that City.

They write from Ratisbon, that the Electorate of Bavaria is entirely ruin'd, and cannot afford Subsistence for the Imperial Army; so that if they fail in their Invasion of Austria, the best Part of Bavaria must be again abandon'd.

Our last Accounts from Dusseldorp hint, that a Demand has been made of a new Body of Auxiliaries, by the Imperial Minister; but his Serene Highness has declared, it was impossible to comply with it at present.

At Brussels a Report has, for some time, prevail'd, that the War will be next Year entirely transferr'd to Germany; which is the more probable, since, from certain Measures taken by the French, it plainly appears, that they do not intend to keep any of their new Conquests long, except Ypres.

There are private Letters from the Hague, that say, the Abbe de la Ville has lately presented a Memorial to their High Mightinesses, of great Importance; but upon what Subject they cannot inform us.

The Hope, Magre, from Cork for New England, is taken by the French, and carried into Cape Briton.

A French Brigantine from Hispaniola, with 100 Hogsheds of Rum, and 60 Hogsheds of Molasses, is taken by the Wilmington Privateer, Captain Sibbald, and sent into Philadelphia.

Yesterday died Mrs. Surman, Mother of Mr. Surman, an eminent Banker in Lombard-street.

Last Tuesday a Court-Martial was held on board the Royal Sovereign at the Nore, upon the Pilot of the Colchester Man of War, for Carelessness, in suffering the Colchester to be Shipwreck'd on the Sands; and after a long Hearing, he was sentenc'd to suffer Two Years Imprisonment.

The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have appointed Captain Foulks to be Commander of a 50 Gun Ship.

We hear, that the Hon. — Van Kepple, Esq; is appointed Commander of a new Sloop, just put into Commission.

A Collection is making by the Inhabitants of Stratford, Bow, and Mile-End, to enable them to have a sufficient Watch to guard the Roads from Whitechapel Turnpike to the above Towns, during the Winter Season.

The Books of his Majesty's Sloop the Spy, lately arrived from Jamaica, are sent to Portsmouth, to pay the Wages due to her Company to the 31st of December, 1742, and to put the said Ship out of Commission.

High Water this Day	Morning	Evening
at London-Bridge.	03 01	03 11

Bank Stock, 144 3/4ths. India, 182. South Sea, 111. Old Annuity, 111 1/4th. New ditto, 111 1/4th. Three per Cent. 93. Ditto 1743, 92 3/4ths. Ditto 1744, 93 1/8th. Seven per Cent. Loan, Nothing done. Five per Cent. ditto, Nothing done. Royal Assurance, 84 1/2. London Assurance, 11. India Bonds, 2 l. 14 s. Bank Circulation, 2 l. 5 s. Salt Talties, Nothing done. Three 1/2 per Cent. Exchequer Orders, Nothing done. Three per Cent. ditto, Nothing done. Million Bank, 115 Equivalent, 110. Tickets, 11 l. 2 s. 6 d.

This Day is Published,
(Price One Shilling and Sixpence)
THREE SERMONS;
I On Mutual Subjection.
II On Conscience.
III On the Trinity.
By the Rev. Dr. S W I F T,
Dean of St. Patrick's.
Printed for R. Dодley, at Tully's Head in Pall-Mall; and
Sold by M. Cooper, at the Globe in Fater-noster Row.

Custom-House, London, November 2, 1744.

For S A L E,
By Order of the Hon. the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs, &c.

ON Wednesday, the 14th of November Instant, at Three of the Clock in the Afternoon, will be put up to Sale, in the Long Room in the Custom-House, London,

Several Parcels of Bohemian and Green Tea, Ten Hampers, of about Forty Dozen Bottles of French Wine, also several Casks of Refused Wines, which are to be Distilled into Brandy, or must into Vinegar, within Three Months after they are deliver'd, clear of all Duties.

To be seen and tasted at the King's Warehouse, on Monday the 12th, and Tuesday the 13th Instant, from Eight to Twelve in the Forenoon, and from Three to Five in the Afternoon; and in the Morning before the Sale.

Where Catalogues will be delivered.

Lottery Office, Duke-Street, Westminster,
Nov. 8, 1744.

THE Managers of the State-Letter for 600,000 l. for the Service of the Year 1744, do hereby give Notice, That they will begin the Work of Cutting off the Tickets into the respective Boxes A and B, on Monday next, the 12th Day of this Instant November, at their Office in Duke-Street, Westminster, by Nine of the Clock in the Forenoon; proceeding in the first Place, with the Blank and Benefit Tickets, which are to be cut into Box B; and so continue the Work of Cutting, from Day to Day, till all the Tickets for each of the Boxes A and B, shall be completely cut therein.

By Order of the said Managers and Directors,
Thomas Jones, Secretary.

This Day is Published.

A CATALOGUE of the Library of a Learned Divine, lately deceas'd, consisting of a choice Collection of Books in most Languages, &c. which will begin to be sold by Auction, at Hamlin's Coffee House, on Wednesday the 14th Instant.

Catalogues may be had Gratis, at Forre's Coffee House, Charing-Cross; Mr. Lewis, in Russell-Street, Convent Garden; the Union Coffee House, Cornhill; and at the Place of Sale; where Gentlemen who cannot attend, may leave Commissions.

On Wednesday the 14th of this Month,

Will be published, in Two Parts,

The SEVENTH VOLUME of
The UNIVERSAL HISTORY:

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II. The London Printer's Lamentation: Or, the Prejudice of over-pressing.

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L O N D O N : Printed for M. COOPER, at the Globe in Pater-noster Row.